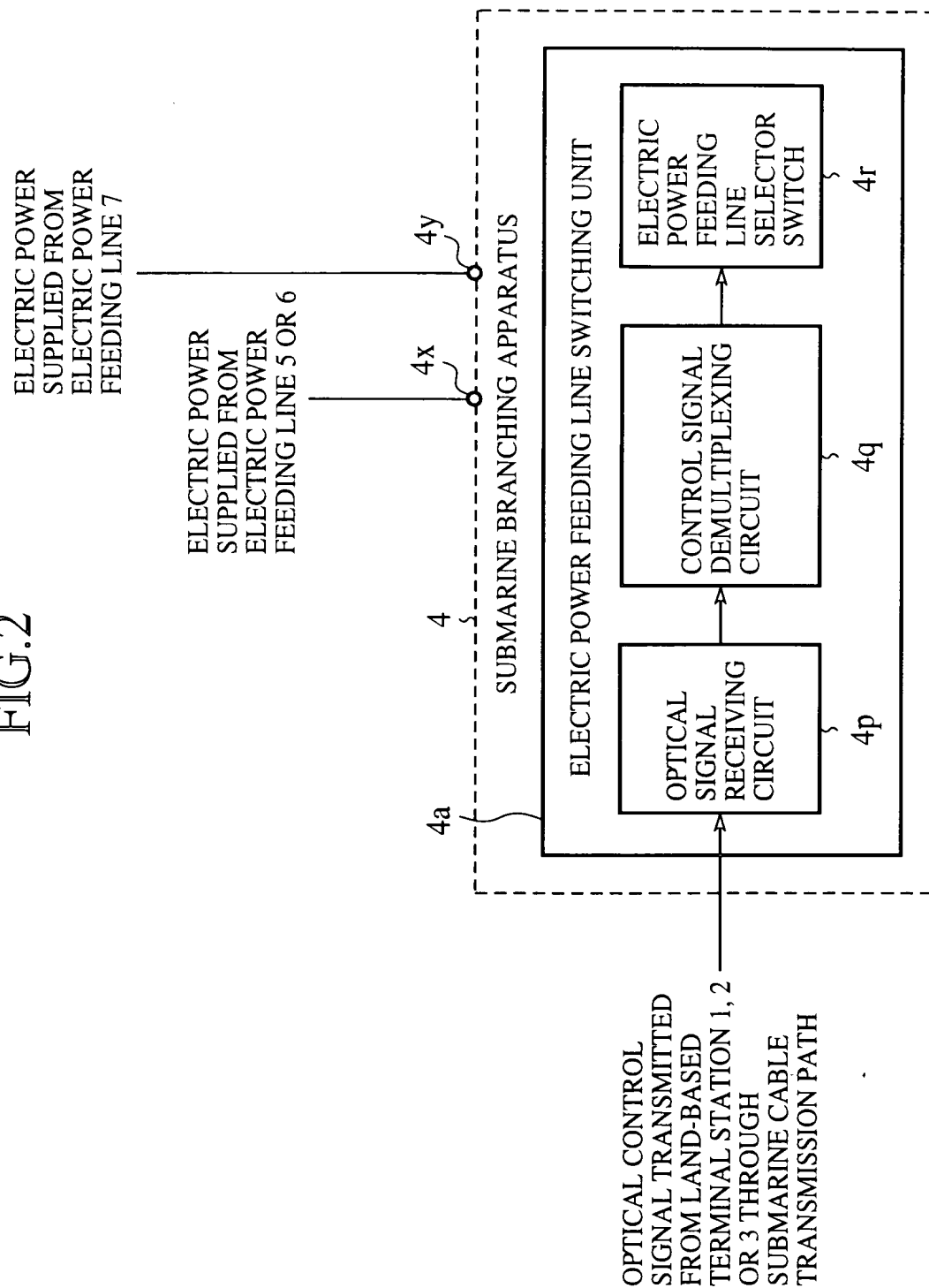


The diagram illustrates a submarine optical communication system. It features a central **SUBMARINE BRANCHING APPARATUS (4)** which contains an **ELECTRIC POWER FEEDING LINE SWITCHING UNIT (4a)**. This apparatus is connected to two **LAND-BASED TERMINAL STATIONS** (1 and 2) via optical control signals. The signal path from station 1 passes through repeaters 5, 11, and 12. The signal path from station 2 passes through repeaters 6, 13, and 14. Both paths converge at the branching apparatus. From there, the signal is transmitted through a cable (7) containing a branching unit (23) to a second set of repeaters (15 and 16), which then connect to a third **LAND-BASED TERMINAL STATION (3)**. Optical control signals are indicated by arrows at various points in the system.

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FIG.3A

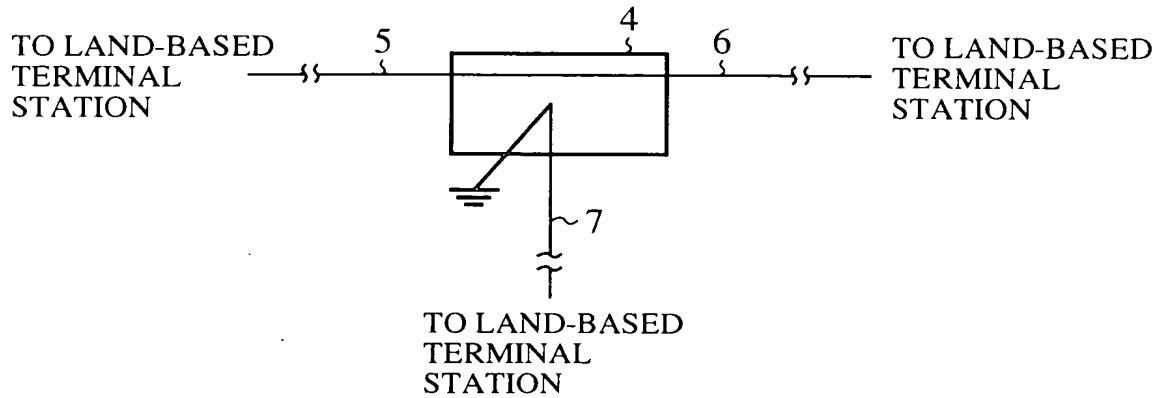


FIG.3B

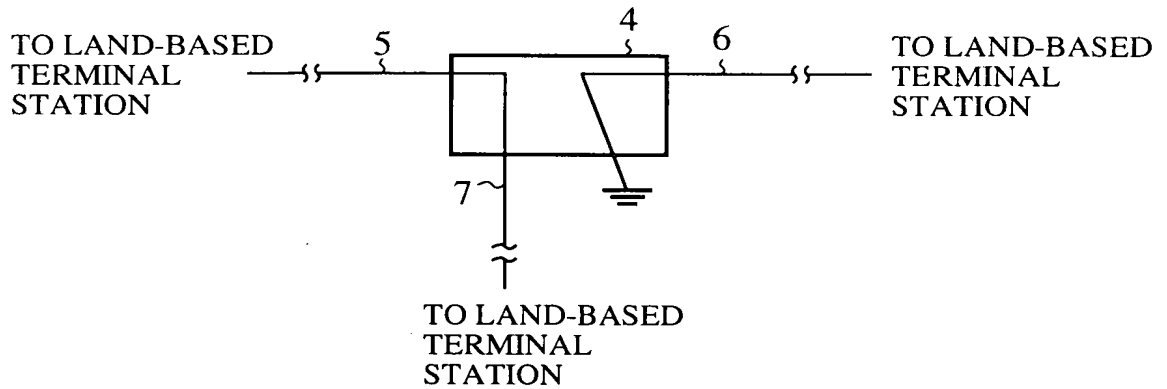
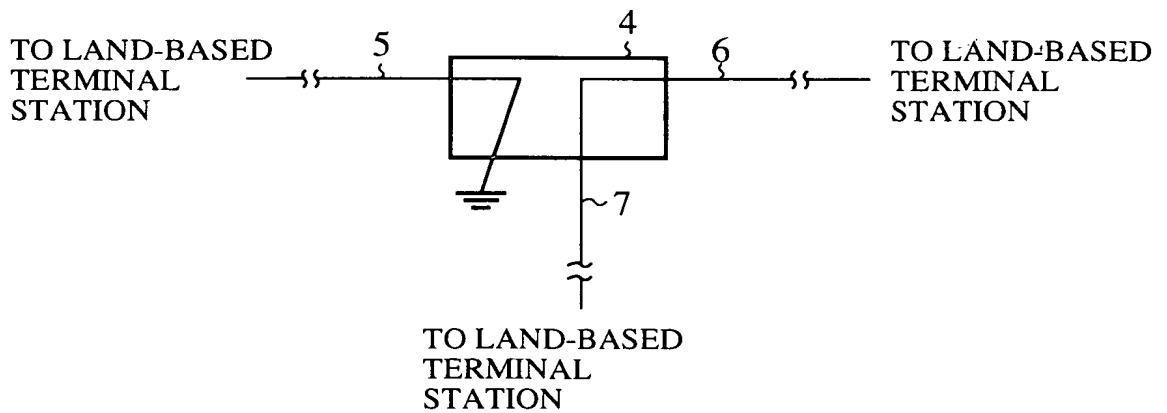


FIG.3C



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FIG.4A

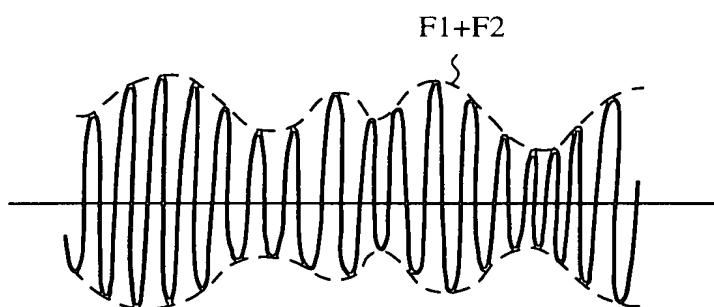
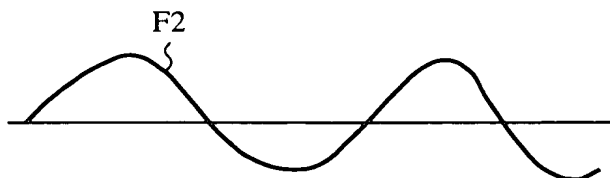


FIG.4B



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FIG.5A

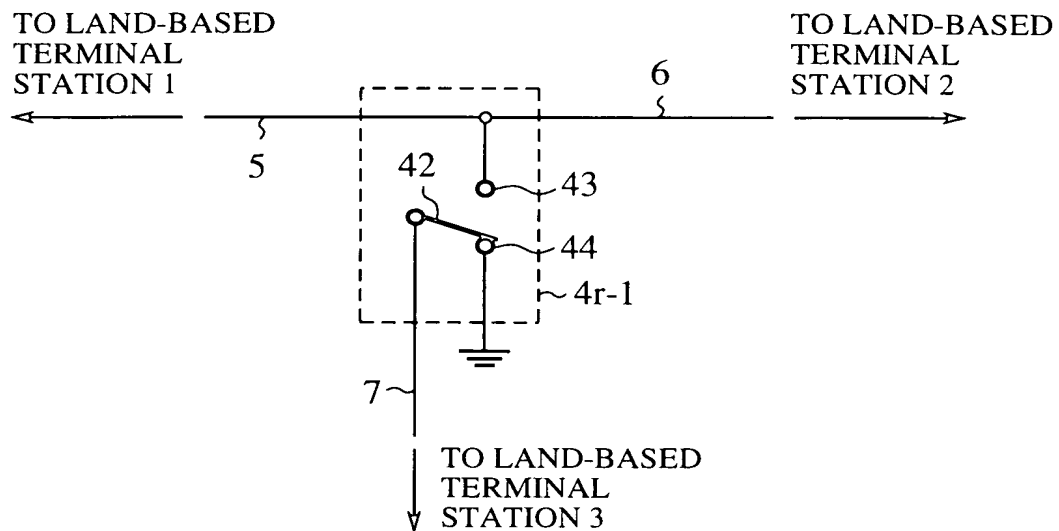
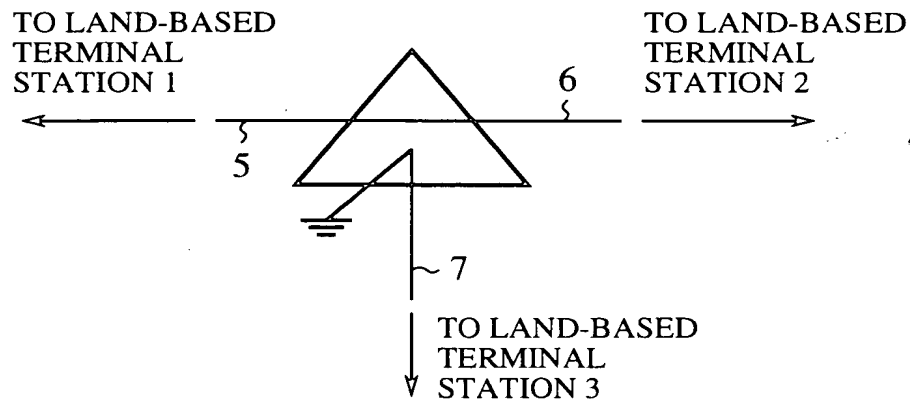


FIG.5B



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FIG.6A

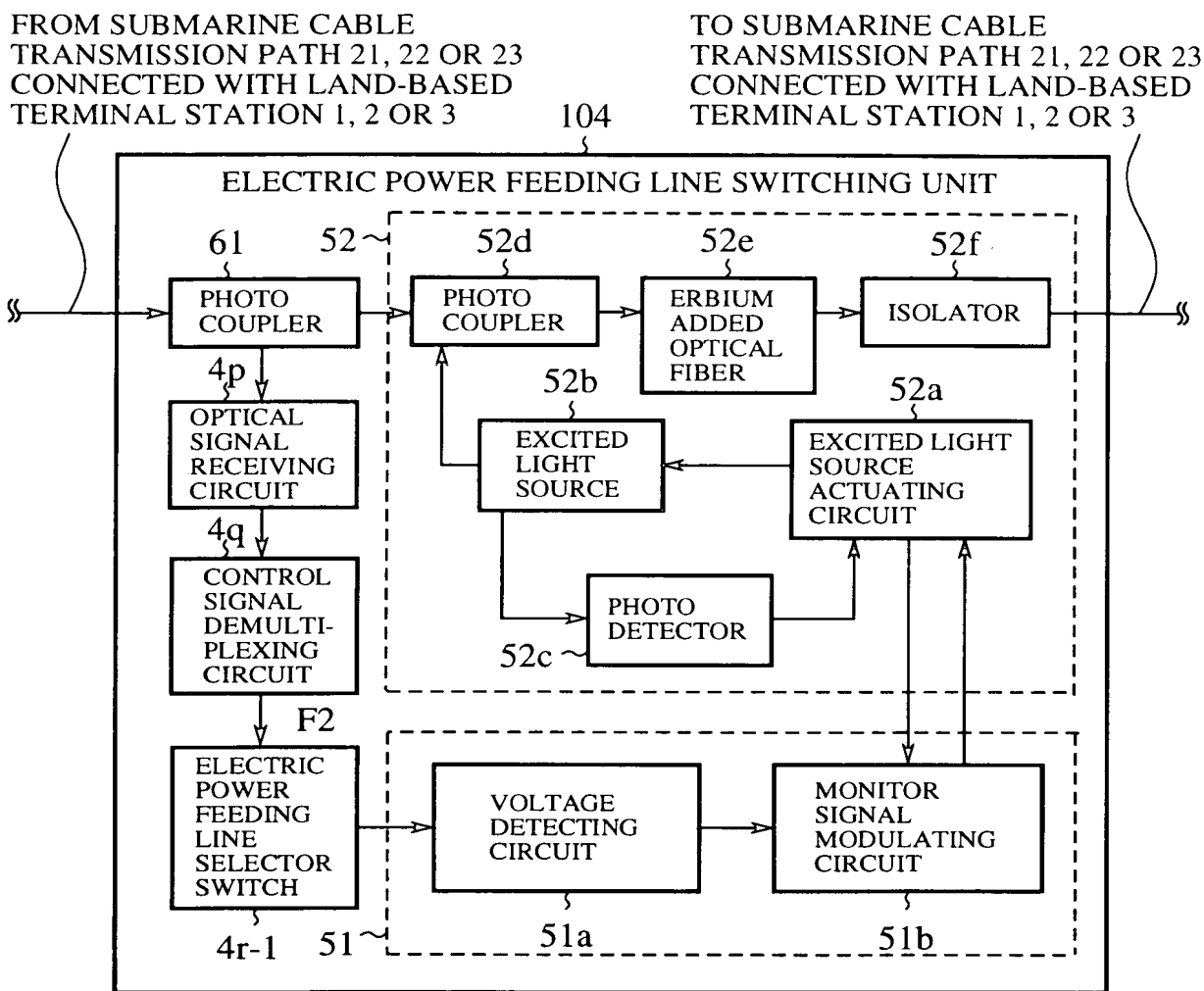
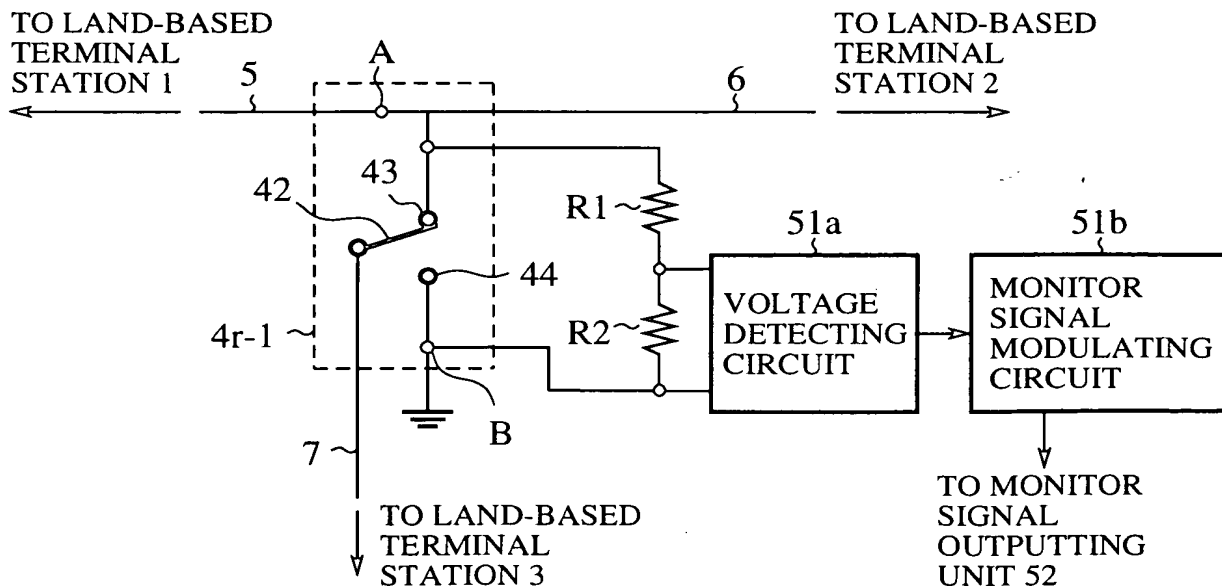


FIG.6B

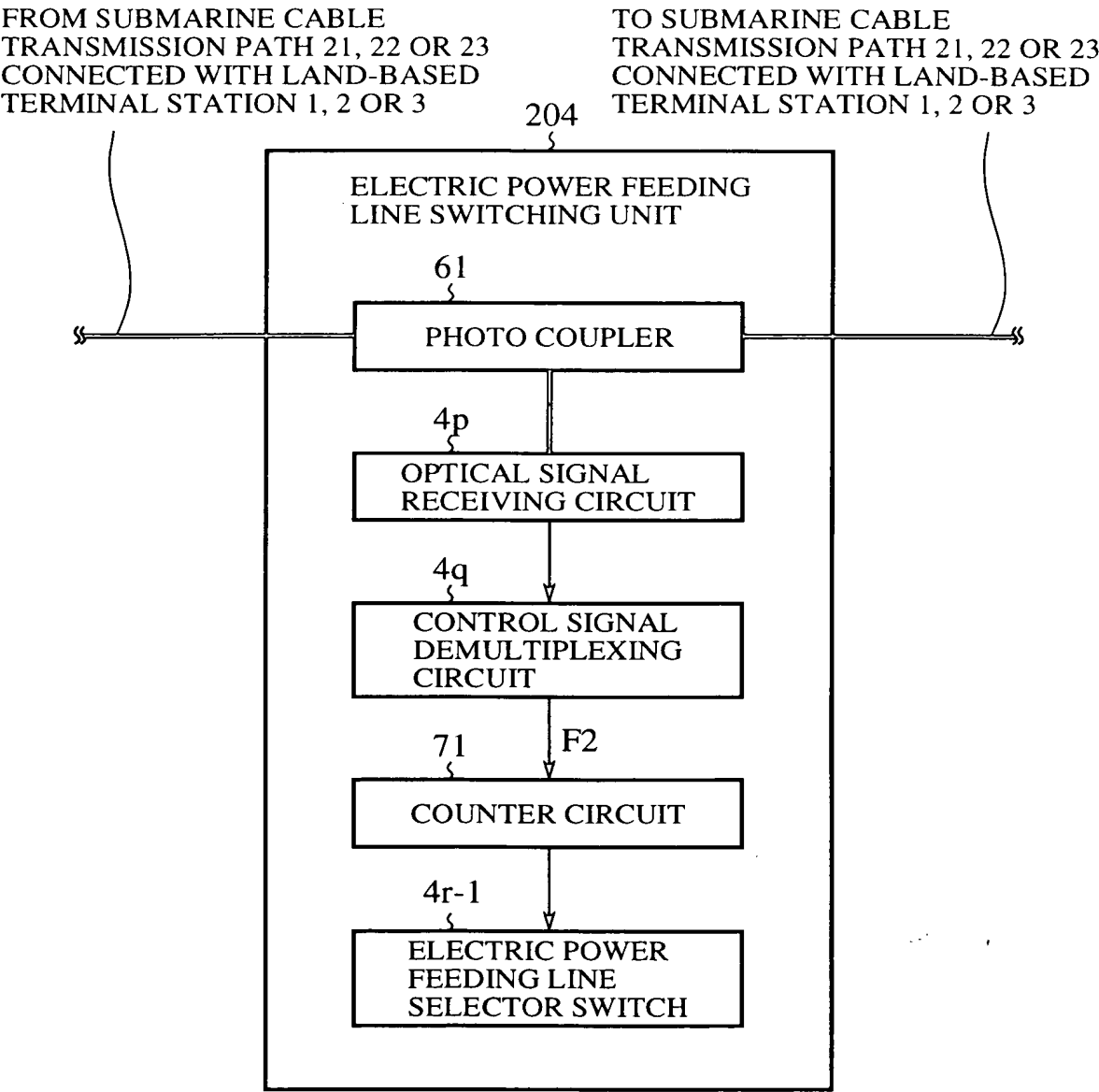




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FIG.7

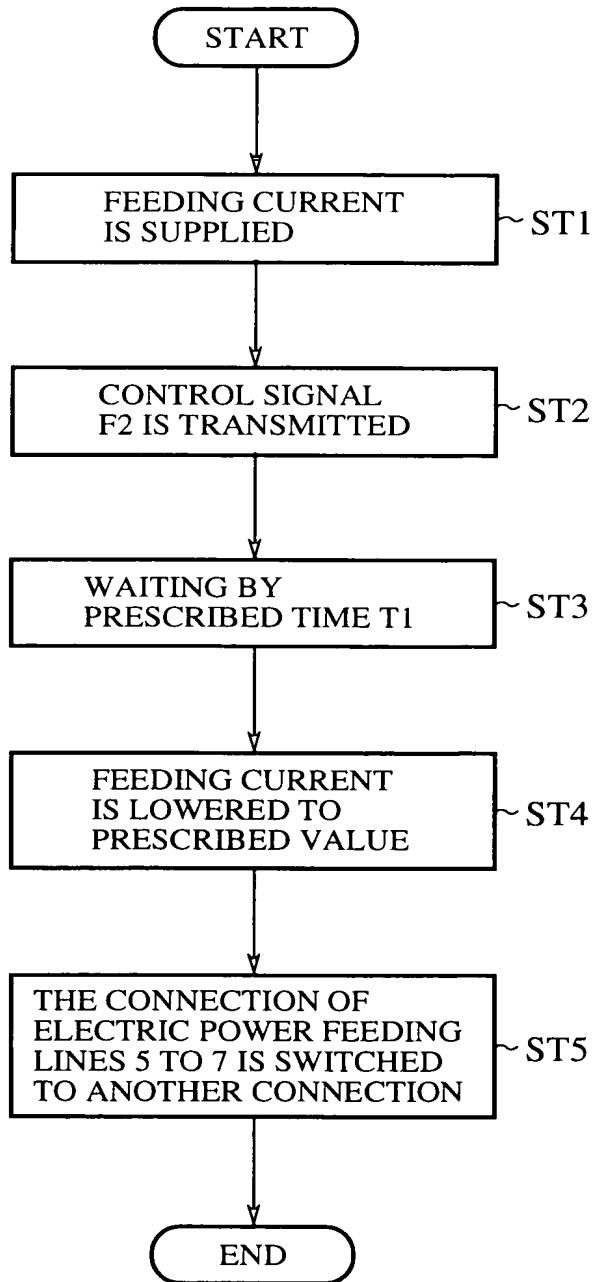


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FIG.8



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FIG.9

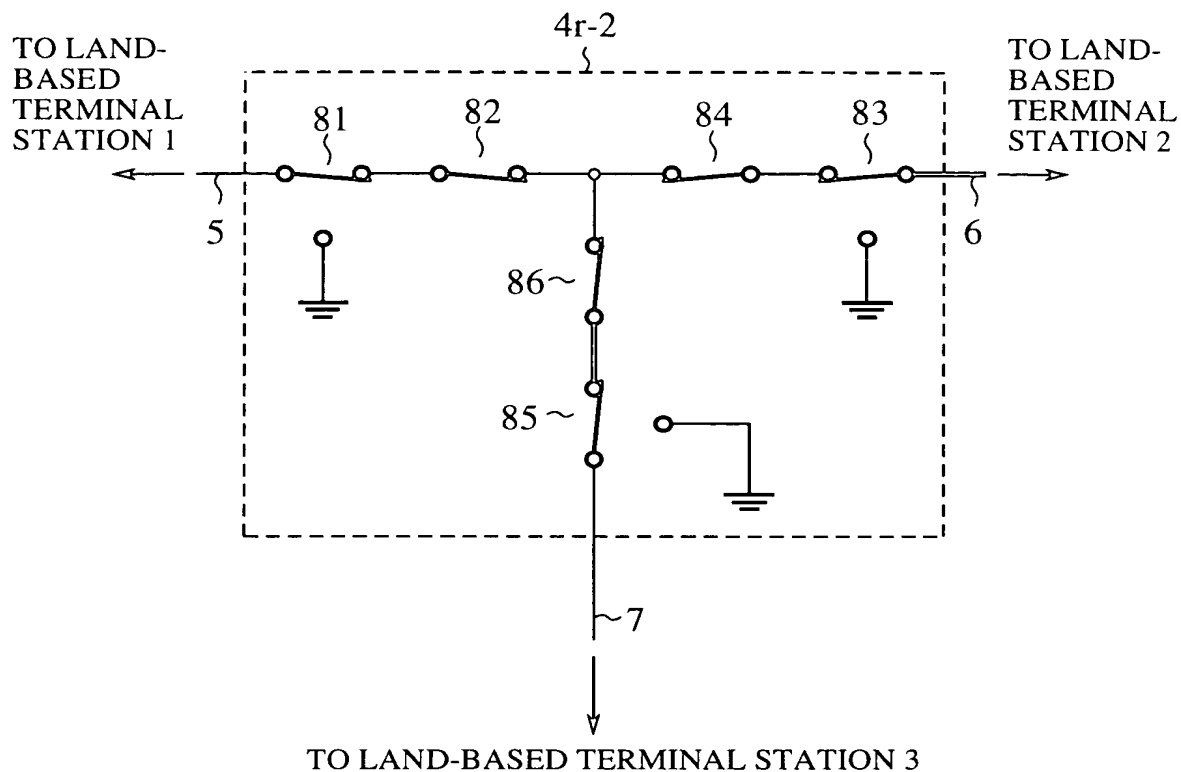


FIG.10

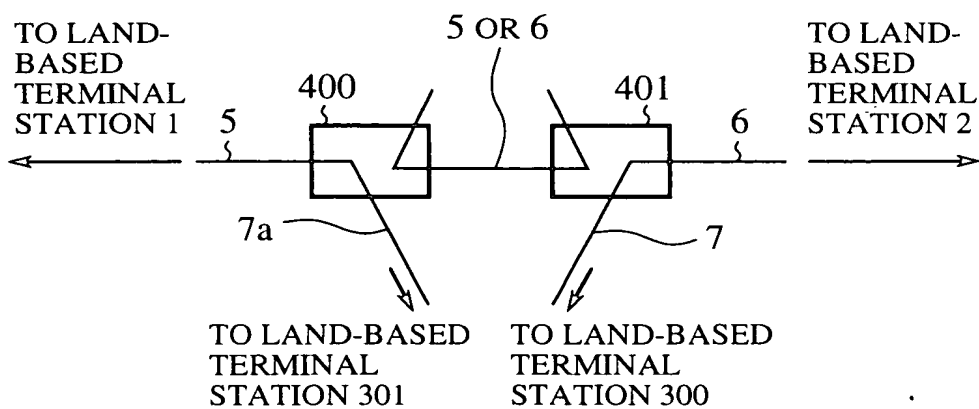


FIG. 11(PRIOR ART)

